



JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.
MAYOR

City of Charleston
South Carolina

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PUBLIC INFORMATION

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“Weathering the Economic Storm” Business Workshops

On March 5, Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr., the City of Charleston Business Services Office, and Comcast Business Services will host the first in a series of business workshops titled “Weathering the Economic Storm.” The new workshop series are developed to provide members of the local business community with information, resources, and strategies to address some of the problems being caused by the economic downturn. The topics covered in the series are direct responses to concerns that the Mayor and City staff have been hearing over the past several months from local business owners, lenders, property owners, and other constituents.

Mayor Riley said “Small business is one of the mainstays of our local economy. The City of Charleston is dedicated to the wellbeing and support of these companies. We believe that these workshops will help our businesses weather the storm and that they will emerge from it stronger than ever.”

Each workshop will be unique, with a panel of local professionals to present on specific issues. Speakers for this first workshop include:

- **Jeff Vinzani** (Nexsen Pruet) on landlord-tenant issues.
- **Gary White** (Wachovia/Wells Fargo) on commercial lending issues.
- **Cindi Rourk** from the Charleston LDC.

The time for the workshops is set to enable participation before the business customarily opens.

The first event will be held on March 5 from 8:00 to 9:30 at the American Theater at 446 King Street.

It will target small businesses, especially those feeling the effects of the current economy that need help cutting operating costs and finding sources of short-term money. The three speakers will discuss how to work with a landlord on lease issues, work with a commercial lender on existing loans, and seek additional financing through the Local Development Corporation or other sources. The short presentations will be followed by Q&A from the audience.

FOR MORE INFO:

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